



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
*1102 SE Quince Street • PO Box 47990  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

January 22, 2002

The Honorable Eileen Cody, Chair  
House Health Care Committee  
John L O'Brien Building  
2nd Floor, Room 245-A  
P.O. Box 40600  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0600

Dear Representative Cody,

I am writing as a member of the State Board of Health to discuss House Bill 2462 and its companion Senate Bill 6523. I agree that schools should require an appropriate health provider's medication or treatment order as a condition for children with life-threatening conditions to attend public school.

The term "life threatening condition" can include many conditions. I therefore suggest that to help make the Board's work as quick and efficient as possible, the bill be amended to clarify the scope of "life-threatening conditions" you intend be addressed. We look forward to working with you to draft that language. With this clarification, I believe the Board would be pleased to accept the responsibility that this bill would assign to it.

I recognize that this bill will have financial implications to schools because they will need to assure that they have the licensed nursing expertise to fulfill their assigned responsibilities.

The bill will also have financial implications for the Board because it will need to utilize medical expertise and other forms of technical assistance as part of the rule development process.

I am pleased that you are addressing the need for schools to be notified of their students' serious medical conditions.

Sincerely,

Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH  
Member, Washington State Board of Health

cc: Members, House Health Care Committee  
Members, Washington State Board of Health  
Don Sloma, Washington State Board of Health  
Patty Hayes, Department of Health  
Ree Sailors, Executive Policy Division